General Assembly

Distr.: General
19 June 2017

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 118

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 15 June 2017

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/71/L.66)*]

71/291. Strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 60/288 of 8 September 2006, 62/272 of 5 September 2008, 64/297 of 8 September 2010, 66/282 of 29 June 2012 and 68/276 of 13 June 2014,

Recalling also its resolution 66/10 of 18 November 2011,

Recalling further its resolution 70/254 of 12 February 2016,

Recalling its resolution 70/291 of 1 July 2016 and, in particular, paragraph 70 thereof,

Recognizing the importance of countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, and in this regard stressing the importance of an integrated and balanced implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[1] across its four pillars, reaffirming the principal responsibility of Member States for implementing the Strategy,

Recognizing also that due priority shall be given to counter-terrorism across the United Nations system,

Reaffirming that terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

1. *Welcomes* the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[2] and decides to establish the Office of Counter-Terrorism, in accordance with the competencies and functions set out in the report;

[1] Resolution 60/288.
[2] A/71/858.

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2. *Also welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to transfer the current Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, together with their existing staff, as well as all associated regular and extrabudgetary resources, out of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, into the Office of Counter-Terrorism;

3. *Recognizes* the important work carried out by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, and emphasizes that the existing contribution agreements and the functions, chairmanship and composition of the Advisory Board of the Centre shall be maintained and that the budget and financial resources of the Centre shall be used only for its programme of work;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure that the Office of Counter-Terrorism, to be headed by an Under-Secretary-General, is provided with adequate capacity and other resources for the implementation of its mandated activities.

87th plenary meeting
15 June 2017

General Assembly

Distr.: General
22 June 2017

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 87

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 22 June 2017

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/71/L.73 and Add.1)*]

71/292. Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all peoples have an inalienable right to the exercise of their sovereignty and the integrity of their national territory,

Recalling the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and in particular paragraph 6 thereof, which states that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its resolution 2066 (XX) of 16 December 1965, in which it invited the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to take effective measures with a view to the immediate and full implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) and to take no action which would dismember the Territory of Mauritius and violate its territorial integrity, and its resolutions 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966 and 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967,

Bearing in mind its resolution 65/118 of 10 December 2010 on the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, reiterating its view that it is incumbent on the United Nations to continue to play an active role in the process of decolonization, and noting that the process of decolonization is not yet complete,

Recalling its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010, in which it declared the period 2011–2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and its resolution 71/122 of 6 December 2016, in which it called for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

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Noting the resolutions on the Chagos Archipelago adopted by the Organization of African Unity and the African Union since 1980, most recently at the twenty-eighth ordinary session of the Assembly of the Union, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2017, and the resolutions on the Chagos Archipelago adopted by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries since 1983, most recently at the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, and in particular the deep concern expressed therein at the forcible removal by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of all the inhabitants of the Chagos Archipelago,

Noting also its decision of 16 September 2016 to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965", on the understanding that there would be no consideration of this item before June 2017,

Decides, in accordance with Article 96 of the Charter of the United Nations, to request the International Court of Justice, pursuant to Article 65 of the Statute of the Court, to render an advisory opinion on the following questions:

(*a*) "Was the process of decolonization of Mauritius lawfully completed when Mauritius was granted independence in 1968, following the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius and having regard to international law, including obligations reflected in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 2066 (XX) of 16 December 1965, 2232 (XXI) of 20 December 1966 and 2357 (XXII) of 19 December 1967?";

(*b*) "What are the consequences under international law, including obligations reflected in the above-mentioned resolutions, arising from the continued administration by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of the Chagos Archipelago, including with respect to the inability of Mauritius to implement a programme for the resettlement on the Chagos Archipelago of its nationals, in particular those of Chagossian origin?".

88th plenary meeting
22 June 2017